



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 5471

LCO No. 1601

01601_____PH_

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE
SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Mental Retardation, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social
3 Services and any other commissioner the Commissioner of Mental
4 Retardation deems appropriate, shall establish a pilot autism spectrum
5 disorders program, to provide a coordinated system of supports and
6 services, including case management, for persons with autism
7 spectrum disorders who do not have mental retardation, as defined in
8 section 1-1g of the general statutes, and their families. The pilot
9 program shall serve up to five-hundred adults with autism spectrum
10 disorders who are not eligible for services from the Department of
11 Mental Retardation under chapter 319b of the general statutes.

12 (b) The Commissioner of Mental Retardation shall establish
13 eligibility requirements for participation in the program.

14 (c) The Commissioner of Mental Retardation, or the commissioner's
15 designee, shall identify appropriate individualized services and

16 supports for each person in the program and the family of each person
 17 in the program and shall coordinate the provision of such services and
 18 supports to such person and family.

19 (d) The pilot program shall commence on or before October 1, 2006,
 20 and shall terminate not later than October 1, 2008.

21 (e) The Commissioner of Mental Retardation shall report, in
 22 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint
 23 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 24 matters relating to public health not later than January 1, 2009,
 25 concerning the results of such pilot program. The report shall include,
 26 recommendations concerning a system for addressing the needs of
 27 persons with autism spectrum disorder, including, but not limited to,
 28 recommendations (1) establishing an independent council to advise the
 29 Department of Mental Retardation with respect to system design,
 30 implementation and quality enhancement, (2) establishing procedural
 31 safeguards, (3) designing and implementing a quality enhancement
 32 and improvement process, and (4) designing and implementing an
 33 interagency data and information management system.

34 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The sum of ten million dollars is
 35 appropriated to the Department of Mental Retardation, from the
 36 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, for the purpose
 37 of establishing and operating the pilot program authorized by section 1
 38 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Commissioner of Mental Retardation to establish and operate a pilot program to coordinate supports, services and case

management for individuals with autism spectrum disorders who do not qualify for services from the Department of Mental Retardation.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]